

Basic Detail Report

Title Sampler

Date 1775

Primary Maker Lydia Seymour

Medium Embroidery; silk thread on a plain-woven, undyed linen ground

Description Sampler worked in dark green, medium blue, cream, salmon, light

blue, dark brown, light green, copper and black silk threads on a plain-woven

linen ground in cross stitch and other stitches. The sampler is rectangular,

oriented vertically. It is laid out with several horizontal narrow bands, over two

rows of one alphabet, over an inscription, over the numbers 1 through 9 at the

bottom. The inscription is "Lydia Seymour made/ this Sampler August/ ye 31

1775 in the 11 th/ year of her age". The background areas of the inscription and

the numbers are solidly stitched. The lines of alphabets, numbers, and text are

separated by various narrow borders, including straight and meandering lines.

The sampler has zig zag borders on the top and bottom edges and narrow

borders on the side edges. The sampler has raw edges that are whipped stitched

to prevent fraying on the side and top edges, and a selvedge on the bottom

edge. The sampler is not framed or permanently mounted. It is encased in a

covered mat. Letters and Numbers: There is one alphabet and the numbers 1-9.

The letters in the alphabet are lowercase block. The letter 'j' is not present; the

letter 'u' is present. The letter 's' repeated; the first is long 's'. All lowercase

letters with descenders, such as the letter 'g', are placed so the descender does

not extend below the baseline. Stitches: The principal stitch on the sampler is

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cross stitch (over two); it is also worked in tent stitch. Condition: The sampler

has light to moderate fading, depending on the color. The sampler has raw

edges that are whipped stitched to prevent fraying on the side and top edges.

There may be stitch loss above the alphabet. There are several stains. The

sampler is not framed or permanently mounted. It is encased in a covered mat.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width): 11 x 8 1/2in. (27.9 x 21.6cm)